

THE BELL RINGER



VOLUME 51 NUMBER 1 MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

MBA Changes Food Services

Stephen Wall

During the past couple of years, the MBA community grew increasingly tired of the poor food, service, and pricing provided by Bonds Incorporated. With the coming of the 1995-96 school year, however, Bonds was finally replaced with Gardner Merchant Food Service.

The introduction of the meal ticket, which costs \$383, was a drastic change that came with the arrival of Gardner-Merchant. With the meal ticket, which can be redeemed for lunches every day for one semester, Gardner-Merchant presented not

only a means of moving the lunch lines more quickly, but also

many students considered terrible. While prices

dishes are scheduled to be replaced by meals varying from

have no time to eat breakfast before the drive to school.

So far, food and service have been judged by many, including High School Director Mr. Regen, to be "pretty good." According to junior Phillip Zimmerman, "The food this year is much better and much cheaper than last year." With improved food, service and cost, this year's cafeteria seems to be starting off well.



of lowering the ridiculous amount of money MBA students spend daily. As Mr. Gioia has noted, many MBA students had been paying six and seven dollars a day for food which

have gone down little for those not using a meal ticket, meals paid for on the plan are lower, at about \$3.70 a day. In addition, the variety of food has undoubtedly grown. Unsavory

chopped steak and macaroni to catfish and hushpuppies.

As an added perk, Gardner-Merchant has even offered a morning service for weight lifters and early arrivers who



Matt had a hard time finding good food last year.

Ten New Faculty Join the MBA Community

Lee Hampton

Ten new faculty members are moving the hill this year. A "Fitness and Health" department has even been created. Dr. Gaffney, Dean of Academics, stated that "[Many] are really experienced teachers from all sorts of programs ... [who] ... bring good ideas with them. The inexperienced ones have gone out of their way to get additional training."

The History Department received three new teachers: Mr. Jones, Dr. Bailey, and Mr. Roberts. Mr. Julian Jones, who taught at Darlington

School, received a B.A. from Alabama, an M.A. from Auburn, and a Divinity degree from Vanderbilt; he is now working in the junior school as a counselor and 7th grade history teacher. Dr. Clay Bailey teaches four classes of Ancient and Medieval History; he has a B.A. from Sewanee, as well as an M.A. and Ph.D.

in history from Vanderbilt. MBA alumnus Mr. Patrick Roberts teaches 8th grade English and history and coaches Microbe football. He has a Communications degree from the University of Richmond and is currently working on a Masters

of Education at David Lipscomb.

The only new teachers in the Fine Arts, Foreign Languages, and English departments are Mr. Matt Pedersen, Mrs. Deborah Franks, and Mr. Alan Coverstone, respectively. Mr. Pederson teaches junior school and Studio Art and has an Art De-

gree from Trinity College. Mrs. Franks, who sponsors the cheerleaders this year, has degrees from Lenoir Rhyne and Old Dominion University and teaches Latin and high school English. Mr. Coverstone, a graduate of Wake Forest, is coaching debate and teaching junior school and high school English, as well as U.S./Comparative Government A.P.

Mr. Pete Carr and Dr. Robert Clark joined the Science Department this year. Mr. Carr is teaching chemistry (continued on pg. 2)



NEWS

Ten New Faculty Join the MBA Community (continued)

after a twenty year career in the Navy. He has a B.S. in chemistry from University of South Carolina and a M.A. in Education Administration from Chapman University. Dr. Clark, a Ph.D. in Physics with undergraduate degrees from Vanderbilt University, is teaching four sections of regular Principles of Physics.

MBA's newest department, Fitness and Health, is composed of Mr. Frank Simpson and Mr. Andre Sims. Mr. Simpson, the new head wrestling coach, has a B.A. in art from MTSU and teaches four sections of 7th grade physical fitness, while Mr. Sims is a graduate of Northern Iowa and Liberty University and coaches weights part-time.

In a short interview, Mr. Gioia stated that the new 7th

grade fitness class was created partially to give 7th grade students more access to the gym during the day, since they cannot use it during their free time in the school day and High School athletics use it in the afternoon. The Headmaster added that, "Lots of the junior school students could benefit from more athletic and fitness information [and a] transition into [MBA's] physical education program." He observed that some junior school students could not make the junior school athletic teams last year because of fitness problems. In addition, Mr. Gioia commented that Mr. Sims would help to prevent problems and reduce the school's liability in the weight room with his specialized knowledge.

Several fac-

tors prompted the creation of the openings for these new teachers, such as the departures of five teachers, an increase in the school enrollment, new administrative responsibilities for

"[Many] are really experienced teachers from all sorts of programs ... [who] ... bring good ideas with them."

-Dr. Gaffney

some teachers, and, according to Mr. Gioia, "a desire to strengthen or develop programs." One cause of the new faculty positions is that student enrollment is up this year, from 533 students in the 1994-1995 school year to 570 students this year.

In order to maintain an 8.7:1 student: faculty ratio, the school is employing 65 teachers this year instead of last year's 61.

Furthermore, new teachers are needed because some of the veteran faculty have increased responsibilities, which reduce the amount of time they have for teaching. For example, Mr. Downey, who taught four classes of Ancient & Medieval History last year, now works in the Alumni Development Office and teaches only one section of Ancient & Medieval History. In addition, Dr. Gaffney is now the Dean of Academics and teaches only two foreign language classes instead of his previous four. Several new faculty members are teaching the classes that Dr. Gaffney and Mr. Downey had last

year. Also, some teachers and staff members bring skills which "strengthen or develop programs." Mr. Coverstone, a former collegiate debater, provides the debate team with an understanding of and experience in policy debate. The members of the nascent Health and Fitness Department, Mr. Sims and Mr. Simpson, provide new expertise in MBA's physical fitness program.

All of the new faculty and staff members are contributing to MBA's program through what Mr. Gioia called a "diversity of abilities" and a desire "to make their impact on the students and other faculty." Mr. Gioia stated that last year's selection process included more interviews and some trial teaching in various classes last spring.

Summer Sports Camp

Al Fuller

During June and July, the MBA summer sports camps saw their largest year ever. Over 600 first through sixth graders participated in the All-Sports Camp, which offered football, baseball, basketball, tennis, soccer, and wrestling. Coaching and practice sessions were held from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at MBA from June 12 to June 30. With the help of 25 High School and Junior School counselors and helpers, as well as MBA coaches, Mr. Elliot directed the three weeks of camp. As in the past, the staff worked all day, got plenty of free Kool-

Aid, and received meager paychecks each Friday. During July, kids came to specialty camps coached by MBA's Varsity coaches to concentrate on one specific sport for three to five days. In addition to the sports at All-Sports Camp, Lacrosse and Air Rifle were specialty camp options. However, not enough students signed up for Lacrosse camp to make it feasible, so it was canceled. Also, between July 24 and 28, elementary school students were able to practice with MBA high school football players at a camp run (continued on pg. 5)

Five Faculty Members Depart

Jim Rich

The beginning of every school year sees the arrival of new teachers at MBA. Although we are usually introduced to and get to know these teachers throughout the year, the student body often doesn't get to hear about what some of MBA's former faculty members are doing, especially those teachers who were at MBA for only a short period of time. In order to fill in these blanks, I recently talked with Mr. Gioia to learn about where some of MBA's former teachers are now. Ms. Lefebvre, who taught chemistry for two years at MBA, was recently accepted

at the University of Tennessee at Memphis Medical school. Mr. Gioia reported that she had been wanting to go to medical school for some time. After teaching summer school at MBA, she headed to Memphis to enroll in school again. Mr. Lisenby, who taught physics and chemistry for one year, decided to move to Colorado where his girlfriend, a physical educator, had landed a job. Mr. Gioia said that, at last report, Mr. Lisenby was seeking employment by the Colorado State School System as a teacher. Mr. Willcutts, a junior

school history teacher for two years, decided to attend Yale University in order to obtain a Master's degree in African History. After teaching junior school and Studio Art for three years, Ms. Paschall, left to pursue a Master's degree in Art at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. Mr. Fraley, who taught Junior School history and English, has moved to Dallas-Fort Worth and, at last notice, was seeking a position in a non-profit organization. Hopefully, these teachers will not be forgotten as they pursue their goals away from MBA.

OPINIONS

Editor-in-Chief's Note:

In the past several years, many have criticized this publication as being boring, full of errors, and administration controlled. I agree. I want *The Bell Ringer* to be an accurate representation of the student body's interests. If you have a suggestion, just tell any member of the staff and we'll work on it. Suggestions, however, are not as appreciated as offers to work. I plan on trying many new things this year, like more pictures, faculty articles, and varying kinds of layout, size, and paper in an attempt to find what you think is best. On a final note, each issue takes a surprising amount of time from every staff member—especially the editors—so I would like to take this chance to thank everyone for his hard work on this issue and those yet to come.

-Benjamin

Bias in the Opinions Page

Chris Allen

The subject about which I am writing today came to me completely by accident. I'd gone to the school guru on history and current affairs to see if he could suggest a topic, only to have he and the editor-in-chief get into an argument about a passing reference to, of all things, press bias. I hadn't thought of it before, but since this is the opinions page, which is supposed to be full of bias, I might as well start off the year addressing it.

First of all, for the opinions page, and only for the opinions page, I approve of and encourage bias. If you try to be objective in an opinions article, it is usually better off going to the news editor. It is in the newsroom, however, where bias has no place. Now, I will start off by pointing out that in the world of the media there are magazines and newspapers and television shows which span the political spectrum, from the far right to the far left, and every shade in between. Unfortunately, the "mainstream media," meaning those institutions which provide nearly all of America with all of its news, does not take a neutral, objective stance as they should, but instead lean so far to the left that they need a handrail to hold on to lest they fall flat on their faces. This grouping includes the three major networks, and the vast majority of newspapers, as well as many news talk shows. Since this liberal slant on the news has been present and growing for many years, it is very unlikely that things are going to change. It is, therefore, up to us to interpret what the press is telling us, either by taking everything we hear in the mainstream press "with a grain of salt," or by gathering news from both extremes and assuming that the truth probably lies somewhere in the middle.

There are countless examples of the lopsided coverage that the press gives to political news, both in our country and abroad, and even now such misrepresentations are rampant in our country. The particular incident which sparked the debate that I mentioned at the start of the article had to do with the roasting of the FBI and several other federal agencies by the press in regards to the Waco "incident." While it is hard to deny that a few mistakes, or miscalculations, were made by all parties, I would like the press to explain to me how the federal agents could have prevented these people from burning down their own house with themselves inside. Of course, such an explanation will never be offered. After all, the press is held accountable to

nobody, so it can say whatever it wants, and at most it will have to make a public apology.

Another example of poor journalism in the news is the current Whitewater hearings, which the press has unilaterally deemed "unnewsworthy." Had a Republican president been involved in the same sort of scandal (e.g. Richard Nixon), the press would have long-since called for complete gavel-to-gavel television coverage, and probably an impeachment vote somewhere along the line. Instead, the press has been a willing accomplice in the affair, trying to throw off a trail that seems to be leading to the President (it's already led to the Governor of Arkansas and close business partners of the Clintons).

There are countless other examples. The out-and-out lie propagated by the Democrats and the press regarding a Republican spending bill which involved school lunch programs is such an issue (a 5% increase in spending is *not* a cut). The current debate regarding Medicare also presents an excellent example.

With the '96 elections approaching, the Democratic National Party is hard at work announcing that Republicans want to cut the rate of increase of

Medicare spending, with the conclusion that Republicans want to kill the elderly. Meanwhile, the Democrats have offered no plan to save Medicare. I say "save" because President Clinton's own Medicare task force has declared that Medicare will be completely insolvent within seven years. So, the decision is to either propose solutions like the Republicans, thereby saving Medicare, or do nothing like the Democrats suggest, and simply let Medicare go broke. Another subject which has just come to a head is the Senator Packwood hearings, which, as a result of allegations stemming back 25 years, has resulted in his resignation. Now, I am in no way defending his actions, but why hasn't the same thing happened to Ted Kennedy? (On a sidenote to this story, one particularly good response to the "calls for action" against Senator Packwood came from a Kentucky Senator who suggested that while we are dredging up ancient history, we take another look at Senator Kennedy's Chappaquiddick accident). And then, of course, there is the most glaring example of tasteless journalism — the recent interview between Newt Gingrich's mother and Connie Chung, who, after promising on camera to keep what Mrs. Gingrich was about to say private, broadcast Mrs. Gingrich's statements to the whole country, and then wouldn't even offer an apology. The fact that she wasn't fired within thirty seconds of this atrocity speaks volumes about the attitude (and arrogance) of the press. There are many other examples, but I think you get the picture.

Having spoken some of my mind, I
(cont. on following page)

From the Annals of W-5:

"There are as many opinions as people"
-Terence

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OPINIONS

shall pause (for there is never an end). Since the press is not accountable to anyone, the current unfortunate situation is unlikely to change. We must, then, remember to be slow to take what the press says at face value, and hope that someday the press will figure out that Americans are smart enough to draw their own conclusions about the news, and simply report the news without personal commentary, as the press was originally intended to do.

Mandatory Disclaimer: Though the editor is confident in the validity of his argument, & his opinions, as well as the others expressed in this forum, they are not necessarily those of *The Bell Ringer*, staff, MBA, etc.

Freedom of Speech Deji Okediji

While many of us were happily beginning our summer break, some good ol' buddies of our civil liberties wasted no time in ensuring a better world for the "decent folk" of this nation. Senator Robert Dole made an attack directed specifically and ruthlessly at the media conglomerate Time Warner Inc.

Unlike many other attackers, however, Dole made an across-the-board attack on movies, rock/alternative music, and "gangsta rap," directly citing such artists as Quentin Tarantino, Nine Inch Nails, Ice-T, and the practically non-existent 2-Live Crew. The isolated attack on Time-Warner was best explained in an issue of *Time Magazine* where it was noted that the conglomerate was a heavy backer of the Democratic Party in the 1992 elections. This fact helps illuminate why performers such as Bruce Willis and Arnold Schwarzenegger, who have publicly supported the GOP, remained absent from Dole's attack even though their films contain greater, more graphic, and more glamorized violence than many of Time-Warner's.

The National Political Congress of Black Women has also joined in on the attack, focusing on the explicit lyrics of "gangsta rap." Instead of proposing any remedies to the so-

cial ills from which these entertainment genres arise, these individuals wish to fix the problems by ignoring them. In the House, Newt Gingrich and the freshman Republicans went haywire. A bill passed banning the almost forgotten issue of flag-burning; and, in an attempt at taking the fat out of the budget, foundations such as the National Endowment for the Arts found their funds seriously reduced. What needs to be realized, in my opinion, is that within a society where there are obvious problems lurking in every facet of life, the worst thing that can be done is to silence the voice which best delivers the problems to the public's attention. It has been argued that some of these artists are simply taking advantage of society's already degenerating moral standards; whether that opinion is fact or not, what should be apparent is that it is not the government's responsibility to decide for the people what issues are the true problems. The expression of the people through the arts, entertainment, or any other means is what fuels a free society, and when that last check against tyranny is removed, a great nation is open to fall to the ranks of oppressor.

Was Your \$100 Worth It?

Mark Pettus

Enjoying the first day of school and looking forward to the many new privileges I was sure my \$100 "athletic fee" investment would produce, I ventured onto the football field with several of my comrades during lunch to participate in the time-honored tradition of stickball.

Imagine my distress when, before even a single inning had been completed, a certain football coach ran us off the field; the vast majority of us being mere intramural athletes, we were deemed unworthy to set foot on the sacred ground. The reason being, I suppose, that the various coaches did not want the grass trampled. I asked myself, as we fled in terror, if ten innocent stickball players, each having paid his \$100, could possibly inflict \$1000 dollars worth of damage to the precious grass. We were not even wearing cleats. Having been advised to play on the front yard, only to be met there by hordes of squealing, swarming microbes, we decided to embark on our own

miniature Trail of Tears to the distant baseball field; since the grass was dead anyway, we figured we could not do much else to it. We got one inning in before the period ended.

Insult was added to injury the very next day when my tennis partner and I, ready to conquer the Intramural Tennis Circuit and win the trip to Cancun, became outraged when we were handed three tennis balls that had been rotting in Mr. Poston's shed for upwards of three years. Once again I began to wonder: how many brand new tennis balls could I have bought if I had kept my \$100 and merely gone to Super-X? Having meditated upon these recent experiences, and having listened to others relate their own personal horror stories concerning this wasted \$100, I hope that the next time MBA feels compelled to raise tuition, it will keep things simple and tack another \$100 onto the \$7,000+ we already spend, instead of trying to hide an extra

couple hundreds of dollars worth of revenue as the various fees and charges accumulated at registration. I feel confident that the \$7.00 I was forced to spend on my *Roll Red Roll Call* will afford me many hours of intense reading enjoyment, but what did I get for my \$100 sports fee? Absolutely nothing.

(GOLF - from p 8)

far. The team then set it's sights on the Region Championship and participation in the state. With the toughest part of the regular season already over, Coach Caldwell commented, "We've had a real good week. We are 10-0 after beating three very strong teams, our best start since '92 because of our ability to step up and beat the tougher competition." The team is dedicated to winning region and making it to the State Tournament.

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ENTERTAINMENT

"HE'S GONE, HE'S GONE, AND NOTHIN'S GONNA BRING HIM BACK..."

(He's Gone - Grateful Dead) by Mr. Spiegel

When the Editor of the *Bell Ringer* asked me if I would write a piece about the Grateful Dead, and "what it was like in the early days", I realized I couldn't help him. The truth is, I came to the Grateful Dead rather late. I was exposed to the band by some college dorm mates in 1975; by then, an entire phase of the band's history was writ. It would be three more years, innumerable Dark Stars and my first live the-counter plastic, no matter how "live", paled

I was in the Sangre de Cristo mountains passed away. I remember that day vividly for of such a gift. If there was anything to suggest nung, but I didn't make the connection. Out of ber hiking out, and discussing with a friend absence. He recalled a former excursion when, he couldn't fathom the "God Bless the Chil-overpasses on the drive home. My money was on a flare-up in the escalating Bosnian crisis. I checked in with home as soon as I reached a phone in Questa. My wife broke the news to me of Jerry's death. My first thought was "no more live shows with Jerry". My second thought was "no more Dead as we know them". I remember the thoughts came a long time after the numbness began to subside.

I feel pretty lucky to have gotten a good seat at the Pyramid, on April 1st. I was stage Jerry, and in front of the sound board! We cruised Graceland about an hour before the show, and the ghost of the King was leaning against the gates, big ringed fingers hooked in the wrought iron musical notes, welcoming the faithful with a grin. He turned the smile on me, and said in that voice of thick tupelo honey, "where ya goin', son?" I explained that we had just come to pay our respects, and that we were on our way to Fat City. "Oh", he said knowingly, and with approval in his voice. "Y'all enjoy the show. Get 'em while you can! We don't last forever, ya know." His eyes were moist as we drove off in the Winnebago, and later that night, I saw him Dead dancing in the aisles! And for Jerry that night, as always, the sparkle in his eyes matched the sparkle in his fingers. Both sparkles are sorely missed!

"I WAS
EXPOSED
TO THE
BAND... IN
1975..."

Go, Go, Power Rangers... Straight to the Executioner!!!

T.Eddie Sisk

I'm loading up the Blazer with a carton, a case, and my shotgun and I'm going to hunt down Haim Saban and kill him very, very, slowly. Then, I'm going to have a Haim Saban skull party at my house and drink hot cocoa out of his empty head.

Why? I'll tell you why: because he's the man who has singlehandedly given you those color coded, PC, ethnically balanced, and generally pretty annoying super heroes of the 90's: *The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers*. Yes, the *Power Rangers*. Those teenage superheroes, who are played by 20-something actors, invade your living room every afternoon and defend the earth and America's children from having to think for themselves. The amazing thing about it is that nobody besides me seems to notice

anything wrong with this! Amazing!

Wait...no...I'm sorry; the majority is right. They teach sharing, teamwork, and the horrors of violence in the real world. *The Real World*?!? They wouldn't know the real world if it hit them over their sensitive, brainless little heads. Every afternoon they're out defending a place that strangely resembles *Beverly Hills, 90210*, but without the sex, drugs, and oh-so-poignant social issues according to which everyone is accepted for who they are inside. My theory is that this is true because everyone in the *Power Ranger* world dresses the same, is physically perfect, and completely, utterly, ignorant. It's true. Take this color-coded thing, for example: the three white males are red, white, and blue, the oriental girl is yellow, the

black guy is black, and the white girl is pink. If they really want to increase the overall "sensitivity" level of the program they should get a Jewish-Quaker-Irish-Lesbian Ranger who wears fuchsia. Now, that's cool.



All I want to know is who makes the decision to hand over our children to these PC superheroes every afternoon? It's beyond me. What ever happened to G.I. Joe? It promoted the over-consumptive, imperialistic American lifestyle and desensitized our children to mindless, patriotic violence. When Duke beat the heck out of a bad guy, he didn't hang-around afterward to understand his pain. Trust me, it's getting worse

.I have three words for you - *The Masked Rider*. Oh, Yes, it's a brand new calvacade o' ignorance patterned after our favorite *Power Rangers* (though no Pink Ranger - Bummer).

I know, I know. I'm destroying the "sensitivity level" on this campus. GOOD! That's what I'm here for, because I am white male paranoia - get used to it. Maybe the world will get better when we don't delude our children into believing that equality actually exists. The sad, true fact is that it doesn't, and 3 billion in merchandise sales won't make it any better, or solve all of society's ills. A kids show won't solve all our problems, surprise; we have to do it on our own. We have to solve our own problems, raise our own kids, and face reality. Mean people may suck, but telling them so won't make them

go away or get any nicer.

What's my solution? What's my middle ground? Kill them all. Wait, no; kill them all except the Pink-Ranger- her I get to keep. In the end we have to regain control of our lives and our minds from the media, celebrities, and the "Psychic Friends Network". The message is simple: think for yourself or the White Ranger will do it for you, and we don't want that, now do we? If you need me, (and you will), I'll be at the Pink Ranger's house learning gymnastics.

Sports Camp (from p 2) by the entire MBA football coaching staff. According to Mr. Elliot, "[The camps were] very successful. [The success] was a combination of having good coaches, good student-counselors, and a good product."

ENTERTAINMENT

Summer Movie Reviews

Beau Tidwell

Well, after three months of sacrifice, it is done. Working all summer at Bellevue 8 Movie Theatre, the days and nights of Beauregard were devoted to

Tommy Lee Jones. Naturally, my favorite redhead, Nicole Kidman, was the star of the whole movie - delivering a show-stopping performance in what could have

First Knight - was spectacular! Unfortunately, I was hoping for a King Arthur movie but saw a Sir Lancelot one (hence the title?) Richard Gere was actually

(Stressed for an article, so...)

At the end of last school year, I was excited to have been named Entertainment Editor. I was honored to have such responsibility bestowed upon me. Then I began to have doubts about my own understanding of the nature of entertainment; in other words, what makes people happy.

In order to discover the true meaning of entertainment, I visited many distant, exotic lands such as Franklin, the Denny's out by the airport, and Music Row. I found that there are many different views of entertainment and many sick people.

For example, many people who live in Belle Meade enjoy going to the country club or a Vanderbilt game, while the majority of Green Hills residents polled reported that their favorite hobby was pretending to be from Belle Meade. Or another fine example: while most residents of Jefferson Street reported that their favorite hobby was selling affordable "abandoned" cars, all East Tennesseans reported that their favorite hobby was "go in' up to Crossville to listen to Ole' Zeke play the Banjo"). Also, while the majority of truck

drivers polled were said to enjoy beating up those different from truckers, most televangelists said they enjoyed condemning those who are different from themselves.

What I'm trying to drive at with these examples is that we are all individuals with differing opinions on what is entertaining; therefore, I, as entertainment editor of this paper, will attempt to establish an understanding of the student body's broad array of interests, whether it be something trivial, like Bosnia, or something with worldwide importance, like Zamfir, master of the pan flute.

I am quite aware that the segment of the M.B.A. student body that knows me is expecting the entertainment section to be a side-show. My only response is: "You're right!" So, come one, come all! See the de-ranked, the disturbed, the demented! See the '95-'96 entertainment section.

P.S.-If you have comments or suggestions, keep them to yourself. Nobody likes a whiner.

-Jack
"KILGORE"

Matt's "MIX UP:" Who is this?



screening movies for your edification, braving the dangers of Fountain Square 14, and the clichés of Lion's Head with my Carmike pass to bring you a better column. So here, in no particular order, are my picks and pans for the summer's movies:

Batman Forever - was phenomenal. Granted, there was no plot and Val Kilmer turned in a weak performance as Batman. On the other hand, villains Tommy Lee Jones and Jim Carrey stole the show. Chris O'Donnell's Robin was whiny and bothersome, but he saved it just by looking really cool and beating the holy heck out of

been an otherwise clichéd flirty-girl-friend part.

Waterworld - \$170 million dollars worth of junk. Actually, the movie may have been decent, but I was among the several thousand fans who just didn't get around to seeing it in theaters. I was just sick that day.

Judge Dredd - Stallone really should've just retired with *Rocky VIII*. The man cannot act, he's just this inarticulate thing that grunts a lot, and I can get that for free at home. Eight bucks to see Stallone blow stuff up? How original. No, really... I promise.

credible in his fight scenes! Maybe he's not the sissy I thought he was. Sean Connery's King Arthur, naturally, was as majestic as the legend itself. Oh, yeah, Julie Ormond was in it, too, and almost got naked but didn't. Instead, she gets kidnapped, chained up, rescued, and fought over. Sexist? Sure. Faithful to the legend? Absolutely.

Nine Months - was really funny, and I'm sure that the whole "Divine Brown" incident couldn't have happened at a better time for Hugh Grant.

(continued on page seven... "Summer Movie Reviews")



PERFECT GEMS
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and More

Terrie Purser

SPORTS

Football Preps for Success

Daniel McGugin

On August first, in 103 degree heat, the 1995-96 MBA varsity football team suited up in pads for "two-a-days." Despite returning only three starters (offensive linemen Dave Morgan and Jon Gaston, and TE/DE John McLendon) and a very rigorous schedule, the team was optimistic about its chances. Having been hit hard by graduation, the seniors will have to step up for MBA to contend for the region title. Quar-

back Bill Maggart and Harwell Horton. On the other side of the ball, linebacker Dan McGugin, safety Daniel Johnson, defensive lineman Titus Thomas, and Defensive End David Cate will lead the defense. Underclassmen RB/QB Max Fuller, DB Hanley Sayers, DL Scott Denbo, R.B. Leland Prevost, OL Matt Berry, RB/LB Will Bartholomew, and WR/DB Paul Russell will also play crucial roles in the Big Red success.

The team

ree. One week later the team traveled to Gallatin to take on the Green Wave. Gallatin, a perennial state championship contender, had not lost a home opener in twenty-two years. Nevertheless, MBA traveled to a stadium packed with die-hard Green Wave fans, full of confidence. After an opening touchdown drive by the Green

drive of their own, followed by a missed two-point conversion.

much improved Northeast squad in the second week. Unfortunately,



back Bill McGugin will spearhead the offense, along with Guards

started off the season with a 7-0 victory over Father Ryan in the first Big Red Jambo-

Wave, MBA, powered by Junior Leland Prevost, answered with a touchdown

It was clear that the Big Red had not come to play close, but to win, as MBA began to run away from the Green Wave. MBA won the game 27-14. The team effort was the key to the Big Red's victory, as several team members played crucial roles in the win. "We started off well [at Gallatin], but we have many areas that need improvement," said senior Daniel Johnson. Some of these areas were soon exploited as MBA began region play, traveling to Clarksville to take on a very talented and

tunately, the Eagle's speed proved too much for the Big Red on this night. Behind the 421 yards of the Eagle's backs, and an impressive defensive effort, Northeast beat MBA 41-14. The Big Red hopes to regroup, as region play continues in the coming weeks.

The crowd support at the first three games was tremendous. The football team appreciates all the efforts of the fans, and hopes to see similar support as region play continues.

ROLL RED

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|-----------------|-----------------|
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Summer Movie Reviews

(continued pg. 6)

Robin Williams steals all his scenes, but it doesn't break the flow. Overall, a great show.

Clueless—yes, Alicia, you sure are.

Dangerous Minds—has an incredible soundtrack and a beautiful lead actress. Unfortunately, it has an "R" rating and the people at Regal Cinemas are anal, and did

not believe I'm 18 (which I'm not, but that is not the point.)

Overall, this summer turned out some really great shows. At the moment, I'd recommend *Dangerous Minds* off hand and warn you strongly against *The Amazing Panda Adventure* and the Power Rangers movie.

SPORTS

Cross Country Team Prepares for Tough Fight

Scott Bowen

On August 2 of this summer, atop a cloudy peak on the Blue Ridge Parkway, the 1995 Varsity Cross Country team began its quest towards a fourteenth consecutive region title. It was in those Blue Ridge mountains that the cross country team spent a fun but tough week of running up and down mountains twice a day and learning team concepts and racing strategies along with teams from all over the South. This rigorous training should prove to be very useful, as the 1995 team prepares to face its toughest competition in several years: a Father Ryan team with three of the area's top runners.

At first, this year's team appears to be weaker than most recent MBA teams because there are only two of seven returning varsity runners. Nevertheless, under

the leadership of Captains Jim Alley, James Gunn, and Scott Bowen, the team is very optimistic about

varsity spots. None of these men want to be part of the first MBA team to lose region since 1980, and all

and that has brought us all together."

As strange as it sounds to those who do not run, Cross

also plans to use this theory to its advantage. "We have three runners who we feel can run with anybody in the region. If we can squeeze in four other runners between most team's number two and four guys, we will keep the streak alive," says James Gunn.

The 1995 MBA Cross Country team is eagerly awaiting the challenges, competition, and fun that lie ahead in the coming season. With the first big meet, "The Tennessee Classic Saturday, September 16 at The Steeplechase, the team is ready to make its hard work over the past few months pay off. As always, the team asks for and encourages any support from faculty and students at all meets throughout the season, as we do our best to bring home another region title.



its chances, due in part to several underclassmen who want to fill the spots left by graduation. Some of the newer runners are: Freshmen David Dean and Michael North, and Sophomore Colin Bonfiglio, last year's top J.V. runner. Seniors J.D. Daniel, Chris Jones, and Stephen Wall, as well as Juniors Phil Zimmerman and Stephen Marler, are also set to battle for

have made the necessary sacrifices that it will take to win, from running twice a day to running that extra mile repeat at the end of practice.

The team's common goal has brought it closer than any in the past few years. "The team has an unbeatable unity," says Co-captain Jim Alley. "We are focusing on our team goal of winning the region

Country is very much a team sport. One, two, or three good runners cannot win their team the meet; for a team to be successful, it must have seven good runners working together. When one runner falters, the other six must step up in his place. This theory is what has allowed MBA teams to be so successful in the past; and this year's team

Big Red Golf Starts Off Strongly

Ben Bodzy

The Big Red golf season began August 17 at Cookville Country Club in the Early Bird Invitational. The team fired a strong 303, the lowest score MBA has

ever shot, earning them second place. "The only place to go was up," Mr. Caldwell said. This year's team is a unique combination of senior leadership and young

talent. David McDowell and Elliott Teague have provided steady leadership and consistent scoring that have been essential to our success thus

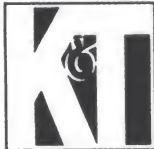
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